

WELFARE

The horse's welfare is paramount at all times. The BSHA endorses the British Horse Society guidelines for the welfare of horses and these guidelines should be followed except where our rules specify otherwise.

In this regard please make sure you are familiar with our rules on tack, bits, spurs and whips.

The Association firmly discourages the showing of over fat Horses and Judges will take this into consideration when making their awards. It is within a Judge's discretion to ask a competitor to leave the ring should he/she believe that the horse is unsound, obese or not comfortable with the weight it is carrying.

The Association encourages riders to consider their weight and whether their horse is up to carrying that weight. Refer to the rule book for acceptable weights for cobs. For all horses riders must consider whether their weight is comfortable for their horse and whether it is impeding their freedom of movement.

The Association will not tolerate any doping of horses. Please refer to our Doping Policy.

The Association expects members to consider the welfare of their horse at all times when they are travelling to or from or whilst they are on a showground. Consideration of travelling times, temperature, feed, hydration needs and amount of work are required. Excessive working in or the use of tack (inside or outside of the ring) which does not fall within boundaries acceptable to our Welfare Stewards, could result in disqualification from the class and/or disciplinary action.